

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1 – 2. (Cancelled)

3. (New) A content reception and reproduction apparatus comprising:

a reception mechanism for receiving a content through a communication mechanism;

an accumulation mechanism for accumulating said content received by said reception mechanism as a main content;

a reproduction mechanism for reproducing said main content;

an auxiliary content acquiring mechanism for acquiring a reproducible content other than said main content as an auxiliary content;

a content switching mechanism for switching a content reproduced by said reproduction means to any one of said main content and said auxiliary content, wherein a content for reproduction is switched to said auxiliary content when the amount of accumulation of said main contents falls short of a predetermined reference amount during a reproduction of said main contents, and a content for reproduction is returned to said main content when said amount of accumulation exceeds said reference amount.

4. (New) A content reception and reproduction method where a content is received through a reception mechanism, said content is accumulated in an accumulation mechanism as a main content and then said main content is reproduced, comprising the steps of:

producing an auxiliary content after the reproduction of said main content is commenced in a state where a reproducible content other than said main content can be acquired; switching a content for reproduction to said auxiliary content when the amount of accumulation of said main contents falls short of a predetermined reference amount during a reproduction of said main contents; and returning a content for reproduction to said main content when said amount of accumulation exceeds said reference amount.